

agriculture, and the economic activity they generate obviously ripples through the domestic economy.

We need to make sure that our current inland waterway infrastructure is maintained in good condition. Congress has implemented policy changes that provide more funding for the Inland Waterways Trust Fund and adjusted cost shares of the trust fund to more efficiently fund and complete the construction projects. I ask for robust funding to support the use of the Inland Waterways Trust Fund for construction. This is necessary to ensure that the inland waterways modernization, replacement, and rehabilitation construction projects are funded at the level supportable by the Inland Waterways Trust Fund.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works program currently faces a large unmet need in its operations and maintenance account. I have been encouraged that in the last several years, Congress has provided additional funding to help address these backlogs. I request as much funding as possible be provided for these operation and maintenance activities.

The investigations account is also crucial for the inland waterways system. There are currently 15 modernization projects that are waiting to begin construction. It is critically important to complete design of these projects so they can begin construction when the Inland Waterways Trust Fund dollars become available. Failure to have design completed will delay project delivery, ultimately leading to increased total cost of the projects, as well as adding additional time to schedule project completion. I ask that the investigations account be funded at a level to support these projects, given current budgetary constraints.

On the Upper Mississippi River, multiple locks are well beyond their 50-year design life and cannot accommodate more tows, as we have to have the barges break up their tows to get them through smaller locks. So having to decouple the barges significantly slows down traffic on the river and increases costs and emissions harmful, then, to the environment.

I worked with my Upper Mississippi River colleagues here in the Senate and a large, broad stakeholder coalition to get initial authorization for this lock and dam modernization, the Navigation and Ecosystem Restoration Program, signed into law. We have also continued to work on receiving preconstruction engineering design and funding that is provided for in the Navigation and Ecosystem Restoration Program. It is important for that program to receive new start funding so construction on these improvements can start taking place.

Lock and Dam 25, which is a key feature of the navigation and ecosystem program, has received a significant portion of the \$72.5 million appropriated for the navigation and ecosystem program thus far and is ready

to move to construction. That program is a key priority for me and my colleagues, the State of Iowa, the region, and everybody up and down the Mississippi River, and, eventually, the world benefits from that increased efficiency.

We need all modes of transportation to help deliver our inputs, our goods, and commodities both domestically and internationally. I want to see robust navigation on the Mississippi River and other inland waterways flourish.

I look forward to continuing to work with my congressional colleagues and the administration on these important issues as appropriations and infrastructure legislation is prepared and discussed.

I have one other short comment I would like to make on another subject. It will take me about 2 or 3 minutes.

#### DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Mr. President, I have spoken many times about the importance of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. It should go without saying that these documents are foundational to our Nation. They were revolutionary texts for the time that laid out our timeless founding ideals, and we still continue to strive toward those ideals as Americans. Unfortunately, it seems this fact can't be taken for granted anymore.

So, on the Fourth of July, National Public Radio continued its tradition of sharing the text of the declaration, but something different happened this year. It began the program with what they call in colleges now a "trigger warning," telling its audience that "the declaration is a document with flaws and deeply ingrained hypocrisies."

Now, instead of highlighting the American ideals that it laid out, NPR decided that the most important thing to note was that it contained outdated language about Native Americans and that its ideals were not yet fully realized when it was written.

I can think of many ways to introduce a reader to this document, but it fundamentally misses the point to focus on the flaws of the authors and signers rather than the ideals it lays out of natural rights endowed to all by our Creator. The people who wrote the declaration were not perfect, just like we aren't perfect today, but the principles they espoused remain true to this day and have changed the course of human history for the better.

We need not ignore the fact that the Founders did not live up to the lofty goals that they set, but it does a great disservice to focus on those flaws while glossing over the fact that our founding principles were truly exceptional in human history. They set us on a path to abolish slavery, provide the justification for women's suffrage, and formed the basis of the civil rights movement.

On July 4, we celebrate our Nation, "conceived in liberty and dedicated to

the proposition that all men are created equal," as Abraham Lincoln so stated. It is imperative that we do not lose sight of our founding principles, which unite all Americans and have been the driving force helping us achieve a more perfect Union.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The Senator from Arizona.

#### VOTE ON MOTION TO DISCHARGE

Ms. SINEMA. I ask that all remaining time be yielded back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Under the previous order, the question is on agreeing to the motion to discharge the nomination of Jennifer Ann Abruzzo from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Ms. SINEMA. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) would have voted "nay."

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 48, as follows:

#### [Rollcall Vote No. 257 Ex.]

##### YEAS—50

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Rosen
Blumenthal	Kaine	Sanders
Booker	Kelly	Schatz
Brown	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cardin	Leahy	Sinema
Carper	Lujan	Smith
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Coons	Markey	Tester
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Feinstein	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Hassan	Padilla	Wyden
Heinrich	Peters	

##### NAYS—48

Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blackburn	Grassley	Portman
Blunt	Hagerty	Risch
Boozman	Hawley	Romney
Burr	Hoeven	Rounds
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Cassidy	Inhofe	Sasse
Collins	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lankford	Shelby
Cramer	Lee	Sullivan
Crapo	Lummis	Thune
Cruz	Marshall	Tillis
Daines	McConnell	Toomey
Ernst	Moran	Tuberville
Fischer	Murkowski	Wicker

##### NOT VOTING—2

Braun	Young
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The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The nomination is discharged, and it will be placed on the calendar.

The Senator from Rhode Island.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

## RECOGNIZING THE LOUISVILLE METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT

• Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, on July 2, 2021, a quick succession of events that lasted only 30 minutes shocked a Louisville neighborhood and showcased the extraordinary professionalism of the Louisville Metro Police Department. Together, with the support of MetroSafe Dispatch and information provided by a vigilant civilian, the stranger abduction of a 6-year-old girl was witnessed and reported, the suspect's vehicle was identified and stopped, and the victim was rescued—unharmful—and returned to her family.

People around the Nation have now seen the emotional bodycam video of the moment when Officer Burba picked up this young girl and whisked her to safety. It is a scene that brings a tear to the eye of every loving parent. Stranger abduction is rare, thankfully, but it is even rarer that such quick action leads to a conclusion such as this.

While one officer's actions were immortalized on film, today I want to recognize all of the members of LMPD's Third Division, First Platoon, Squad One. Each officer was willing to risk personal injury to rescue this child and capture the suspect. They include Sergeant Joe Keeling, Officers Stephen Barone, Jason Burns, Travis Elder, Charles Ennis, Aaron Flannery, Malliccaaii Green, Nicholas Green, Clint Greene, Jake Harris, Mark Manning, Aimee Mills, Michael Rach, Bradley Russell, Tom Stettenbenz and Lucero Aguilera Vasquez.

Key members of MetroSafe Dispatch who handled the response were Dispatchers Emily David and Hannah Hurley, and Jim Intermaggio, who took the inbound call.

Finally, although several citizens made 911 calls regarding the incident, Prentiss Weatherford, who witnessed the abduction, pursued the vehicle and took down critical license plate information.

This LMPD squad, a capable dispatch team, and an alert citizen worked in concert to redeem what could have been a most tragic scenario. I am grateful to them, and the community

is grateful. And I believe that the family of this 6-year-old girl would agree that all those who responded are deserving of this special distinction.●

## RECOGNIZING EMSI BURNING GLASS

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, as a senior member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. Today I am pleased to honor Emsi Burning Glass in Moscow as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for July 2021.

Emsi Burning Glass, initially named Emsi, is a labor market analytics company founded by economists Hank Robison and Kjell Christophersen in 2001 that specializes in providing labor market data, analytics, and consulting services for higher education institutions, private enterprises, and workforce development agencies. One of the company's initial goals was to provide at least 50 high-paying jobs to the Moscow community. It has since surpassed that goal and employs 280 people.

Since its founding, the company has achieved outstanding success and now has clients throughout the United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States. The business has become one of the fastest growing companies in Moscow, and its success has enabled it to provide hundreds of quality jobs in the region and further invest in the local community. In 2019, Emsi announced it would construct a new 3.7-acre campus that will allow it to hire hundreds of new software developers, engineers, data scientists, economists, sales representatives, and other high-paying positions.

The company's success has not gone unnoticed. In June 2021, Emsi announced a merger with Burning Glass, a fellow labor market analytics firm in Boston and its name was formally changed to Emsi Burning Glass. The merger will allow the company to continue its growth in Moscow while expanding its presence in the global marketplace.

Congratulations to all of the employees of Emsi Burning Glass on being selected as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for July 2021. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

## MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

## EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United

States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

## MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2311. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3684. An act to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

## EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1276. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals relative to the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1277. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals relative to the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1278. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Restoring Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Definitions and Certifications" (RIN2529-AB01) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1279. A communication from the Congressional Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Guidance" (Docket No. OP-1644) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1280. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Protections for Borrowers Affected by the COVID-19 Emergency Under the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA), Regulation X" (RIN3170-AB07) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1281. A communication from the Chairman of the Appraisal Subcommittee, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Appraisal Subcommittee's 2020 Annual Report; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1282. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on